Microeconomics Course Syllabus

COURSE TITLE       Microeconomics
COURSE NUMBER      ECO 2023
PREREQUISITES     Macroeconomics, ECO 2013, Minimum grade of C

CREDIT HOURS      3.0
CONTACT HOURS     45

CLASS MEETING TIMES Online course: no meeting times
CLASS METHOD      This course is designed as an online course with no on-campus
                  meeting dates required. You may access the online classroom on the
                  first day of class at: http://online.fkcc.edu. If you have difficulty in
                  logging in to the course or you do not see the course listed, contact the
                  Office of Distance Learning helpline at 305-809-3177 or e-mail to
                  D2lhelp@fkcc.edu for assistance.

INSTRUCTOR       Priscilla Block
                  priscilla.block@fkcc.edu

OFFICE HOURS     See announcements for synchronous office hours.
**COURSE DESCRIPTION**
Economic principles for business applications with emphasis on determination of market prices, elasticity of demand, cost analysis, marginal analysis and profit maximization, forms of competition, and antitrust regulations.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**
Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:
1. Demonstrate a familiarity with microeconomic theory, the market mechanism, and the basics of a market economy.
2. Understand how consumers reach consumption decisions and how business firms reach output and pricing decisions.
3. Distinguish between the major forms of competition that exist in a market economy.
4. Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of government intervention.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**
Principles of Microeconomics or Principles of Economics, Mankiw, 6th edition

**PUBLISHER**
Southwestern Cengage Learning

**AUTHORS**
Mankiw, Gregory

**BUNDLE TEXTBOOK AND CODE FROM BOOKSTORE**
In this course, you will use a textbook and the Aplia website ([www.aplia.com](http://www.aplia.com)). If you purchased your book/bundle through the FKCC bookstore, you have already purchased access to Aplia. If you have this textbook from a previous class or another source, you will need to purchase Aplia access at the Aplia site. Enter your course key: **6M8C-478L-XGXB**.

**PROPOSED COURSE SCHEDULE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Textbook Chapters--Topics</th>
<th>Assignments/Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/23 - 6/29</td>
<td>Introduce yourself (10 pts.)</td>
<td>Aplia Online Quiz 33 pts. Discussion 10 pts.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Briefly review Ch.s 1 and 2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chapter 10 - Externalities</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/23 - 6/29</td>
<td>Ch. 11 - Public Goods and Common Resources</td>
<td>Aplia Online Quiz 30 pts.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Please note: The course schedule is subject to change to meet the needs of the course and its students. If you miss a class, it is YOUR responsibility to stay current.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Chapter Title</th>
<th>Course Material</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/30 - 7/6</td>
<td>Chapter 12 - Design of the Tax System</td>
<td>Aplia Online Quiz 27 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/30 - 7/6</td>
<td>Chapter 13 - Costs of Production</td>
<td>Aplia Online Quiz 54 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/30 - 7/6</td>
<td>Chapter 14 - Firms in Competitive Markets</td>
<td>Aplia Online Quiz 95 pts.</td>
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<td>Discussion 10 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/7 - 7/13</td>
<td>MIDTERM EXAM</td>
<td>90 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/14 - 7/20</td>
<td>Chapter 15 - Monopoly</td>
<td>Aplia Online Quiz 59 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/14 - 7/20</td>
<td>Chapter 16 - Monopolistic Competition</td>
<td>Aplia Online Quiz 22 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/14 - 7/20</td>
<td>Chapter 17 - Oligopoly</td>
<td>Aplia Online Quiz 58 pts.</td>
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<td>Discussion 10 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/21 - 7/27</td>
<td>Chapter 18 - Market Factors of Production</td>
<td>Aplia Online Quiz 37 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/21 - 7/27</td>
<td>Chapter 19 - Earnings and Discrimination</td>
<td>Aplia Online Quiz 18 pts.</td>
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<td>Discussion 10 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/21 - 7/27</td>
<td>Chapter 20 - Income Inequality and Poverty,</td>
<td>60 points</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Analysis of a Current Article on This Topic</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/28 - 8/3</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
<td>90 points</td>
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**STUDENT EVALUATION AND COURSE POLICIES**
### APPROX. WEIGHT | STUDENT GRADE DETERMINATION | FKCC GRADING SCALE
---|---|---
40% | Tests/Exams - 180 points | 90-100% A  
30% | Aplia Assignments/Quizzes 433 | 80-89% B  
25% | Discussions - 50 points | 70-79% C  
5% | Research paper/analysis - 60 pts. | 60-69% D  
100% | Final grade - 723 total points | Below 60% F

### Exam Policy

- Each test/exam will be given online and will consist, for the most part, of multiple choice questions.  
- Makeup exams may be provided in the case of an emergency, but only with acceptable documentation of the emergency (hospital admits slip, etc.). The test format will be changed to essay in the event that a makeup test is permitted.  
- The final exam cannot be made up for any reason.

### Communications:  The online format of this class puts a premium on communications. The prime responsibility for timely communications rests with you - the student. This course will utilize the following methods:

#### Reading Assignments and Homework Quizzes

1. This class covers a lot of material and there are some concepts that may be difficult to grasp. Experience has shown that students who are successful in this class generally have study time totals on the higher end of the scale.  
2. Few students do well in this course if they are spending fewer than 5 or 6 hours studying every week. If you do not have a strong background in this subject, your study time will almost certainly need to be on the higher end of the scale if you want to earn a good grade.

### Attendance

- I will monitor student attendance and participation online via D2L. Students are required to participate in their online course each week as verified by activity within the D2L Learning Management System.  
- There will be at least one assignment in this course that is due every week of the semester, unless the College is officially closed for the entire week. These may include discussion forum posts for class participation, exams, homework assignment quizzes, or a combination of these. I will take attendance each week based on your submission of the assignments that are due that week, so it is important that you submit every assignment on time. Late assignments will not be accepted without acceptable documentation (hospital admits slips, etc.).  
- Simply logging into the online classroom without submitting any of the assignments due is not sufficient to count for attendance purposes.
• Students who do not regularly participate in class by submitting the assignments that are due each week are considered absent from the class.

• An instructor may withdraw a student from courses for excessive absences and/or non-attendance up to the 70% point in the semester.

Class Participation

Class participation consists of asynchronous online discussion postings and online assignments. The online discussion component is defined as posting a minimum number of substantial, separate, and distinct messages to the various Discussion Forums. These discussion board messages must be posted before the deadlines in the Course Calendar to count toward your participation grade. A late post adds nothing to a discussion and will not be accepted.

DISCUSSION FORUMS: Every week, under the discussion tab, there will be a question to which you are to post a response before the end of the week/due date.

For the purposes of this class, a substantial online posting must:
• Provide a good explanation of a concept or concepts related to the material discussed in the forum, or give a good example of how a concept can be applied, or provide an insightful response to a previous post.

• Be factually correct. The post should help your classmates, and yourself, learn the material.

• **Be at least 150 words in length.** Messages that do not meet this length requirement will earn only a small amount of partial credit, even if they are only one word short.

• Have acceptable spelling and grammar. Although this is not a writing class, this is college. Students should get into the habit of writing complete sentences that are grammatically correct. I don’t expect your grammar to be perfect, but it should be generally correct. Take advantage of the spell check feature in D2L.

• Be your own work. Do not plagiarize from any source (internet, textbook, etc.) as the body of your post. Study the concept, and then express it in your own words. Make certain to cite and document your references.

• Other key points:
  • **Only messages that meet all of the requirements of a substantial post** listed above will earn full credit for participation.
  
  • It is acceptable (and encouraged!) for more than one student to respond to the same message. The best way to be sure you understand a topic is to try to explain it to someone else.

  • Please use the discussion forums to ask all of the questions you have about the class material. I want you to ask a lot of questions, and these questions will contribute to your class participation grade.

  • **Off-topic messages will not count toward your participation grade.**

  • **If your final average is on the borderline between two letter grades, active participation (posting several messages to each forum, on average) will work to your advantage as I decide which of the two letter grades you have earned.**

  • **Messages must have content that contributes to the discussion. Messages that contain a few words and merely say “I agree with you” or something similar will not earn any credit.**
• These participation points are the easiest part of your grade to earn, and also the easiest to forget to do. Don’t forget!

• Copying and pasting from any source, even if you cite the source, is not acceptable. You should study the source document and paraphrase what you learned when typing a message.

**To earn 100% for your class participation grade, you must do the following by the dates published in the Course Calendar:**

• Post an introductory message to the class in the Introductions forum.

• Post one substantial message in each discussion forum at any time during the week in which that forum is scheduled. (If two forums are scheduled during the same week, then one message must be posted in each forum.)

• Some extra credit will be given for substantial messages that are posted no later than Wednesday of the week they are due. This is to encourage students to post early in the week, which will help generate a better class discussion within each forum.

• If no substantial messages are posted on time in a forum, it will not be possible to earn 100% for that forum. A small number of messages that are not substantial but do say more than “I agree” or “Good Post!” And are more than 1 or 2 sentences in length will earn some partial credit, but not very much.

**Academic Honesty & Plagiarism**

• Students are expected to respect and uphold the standards of honesty in submitting written work to instructors. Though occurring in many forms, plagiarism in essence involves the presentation of another person’s work as if it were the work of the presenter.

• Any cheating or plagiarism will result in disciplinary action to be determined by the instructor based on the severity and nature of the offense. It is the student’s responsibility to review the College’s policy on Academic Honesty.

**Special Needs**

• If you have any special needs or requirements pertaining to this course, please discuss them with the instructor early in the term.

• If you have special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and need assistance, please notify the Office for Students with Disabilities at 305-809-3292 via email at: karla.malsheimer@fkcc.edu or the course instructor immediately.

• Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs.

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**Students are expected to familiarize themselves with FKCC Policies,**

**which can be found in the current Student Handbook.**